Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

Economic Statistics Released During the Week of December 2, 2002 to December 6, 2002

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Rigs Drilling	November			The number of active rigs drilling in Alberta increased by 31.7% in November. On a year over year basis, drilling was down 2.4% from November 2001. For the first eleven months of 2002, the number of active rigs drilling was 26.0% lower than in the same period for 2001.
Alberta	241	31.7%	-2.4%	
Help-Wanted Index (1996 = 100)	November			Alberta's Help-Wanted Index declined to 125.1 in November, down 3.8% from October. Canada's Index fell to 118.2, a drop of 2.2% from October. All provinces recorded declines in November, with the largest decreases recorded in Prince Edward Island (-6.1%), Newfoundland (-5.2%), New Brunswick (-3.9%), and Alberta (-3.8%).
Alberta	125.1	-3.8%	-14.9%	
Canada	118.2	-2.2%	-8.6%	
Building Permits ($ Millions)	October			In October, Alberta saw a 13.8% decline from the previous month in building permits. This was mainly due to a 49.5% drop in non-residential permits. Residential permits were actually up by 13.0%. In Canada, residential permits were up 4.8% from September, while non-residential permits were up by 10.9%. Over the first ten months of 2002, Canadian building permits were up by 17.2% compared to the same period the previous year, while permits in Alberta were up by 21.7%.
Alberta	550.4	-13.8%	16.3%	
Canada	4041.6	6.9%	22.8%	